

From: Barak Pearlmutter
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 3:11pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To Whom It May Concern:

I am opposed to the proposed settlement in the Microsoft antitrust trial. I feel that the current proposed settlement does not in any substantial way redress the actions committed by Microsoft in the past, or inhibit their ability to commit similar actions in the future.

The vast majority of the provisions within the settlement only formalize the status quo. Of the remaining provisions, none would effectively prohibit Microsoft from abusing its monopoly position. This is especially important in view of the seriousness of Microsoft's past transgressions.

The proposed settlement does nothing to correct Microsoft's previous actions. There are no provisions that correct or redress their previous abuses. They only prohibit the future repetition of those abuses, and that in a fashion which is unlikely to be effective. This, in my opinion, goes against the very foundation of law. If a person or organization is able to commit illegal acts, benefit from those acts and then receive as a "punishment" a request to not commit such acts again, they have still benefited from their illegal acts. That is not justice.

While the Court's desire that a settlement be reached is well-intentioned, it is wrong to reach an unjust settlement merely for settlement's sake. A wrong that is not corrected is compounded.

Yours Truly,

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